

**Meeting of North Myrtle Beach
Recreation Commission**
Wednesday, January 21, 2025

Present: Parks and Recreation Director Matt Gibbons, Community Center Manager Tammy Johnson, David Kranstuber, Eric Rivenbark, Joshua McDaniel, Nicholas Hughes, Connie Delaney, Shannon Fries.

Absent: Arnette Vereen

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman David Kranstuber welcomed the Commission members and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, followed by roll call. David motioned to approve the minutes from the November meeting, and Connie seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

II. Communications

Director Matt Gibbons asked members if they had questions regarding the Monthly Reports. No questions were raised.

III. Announcement by Recreation Commission Members

Shannon stated that the Light Show was impressive and that she really enjoyed it. She asked whether the Christmas Parade is ever canceled due to rain and how the public would be notified. Matt responded that the parade is typically held rain or shine.

Eric shared that he also enjoyed the Light Show and felt it was a great event for the whole family. He additionally complimented the City's winter sports programs and all team sponsorships.

Connie stated that she enjoyed the Cantata and asked if the City could do anything about the homeless population. Matt responded that the police are aware and try to help by encouraging individuals to utilize available shelters.

David commented that Rob at the Aquatic & Fitness Center is doing an excellent job with customer service and assisting members with the new app. He added that the instructors are phenomenal and show great concern for members' well-being.

Joshua stated that the Parks & Sports Complex expansion is phenomenal. He asked whether a 5K race has ever been held at the park. Matt responded that the City has hosted many cross-country meets there.

Nicholas thanked the City for the Light Show and said it was great.

IV. New Business

Director Matt Gibbons discussed a list of Capital Projects the department has compiled as a 5–8 year wish list. City Council will ultimately determine which projects are approved. Matt reviewed several proposed projects under consideration, including a new Recreation and Community Center, indoor basketball/volleyball courts, additional classrooms, and park improvements. He provided the board with a rating sheet outlining all proposed projects and asked members to evaluate and prioritize them based on their opinions.

V. Other Business

Matt reported that the Christmas Light Show was a tremendous success. Approximately 27,800 cars attended, generating gross revenue of nearly \$1 million. By February 14, the Park will host 70 softball teams. The Pickleball Complex project has been officially awarded. Contractors will have 365 days to complete construction. The expansion of the Aquatic & Fitness Center is currently in the design phase. Funding for the project will be voted on during the next budget retreat in late April. On February 7, the Special Events Division will host a Sweet Stroll event on Main Street. 22 businesses will provide sweet treats for participants. 75 people have already registered. On February 21, a Family Formal will take place at the J. Bryan Community Center, with 180 guests expected to attend. On March 14, the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival will be held on Main Street. 135 vendors have registered. 120 parade entries are confirmed. Matt reported that there are 52 basketball teams participating this year. Spring sports registration begins next week. Spring volleyball will be offered for the first time this year. Beach renourishment is currently underway. City parking is being restructured, with consideration being given to a tiered pricing model to improve utilization of underused parking lots.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting of the North Myrtle Beach Recreation Commission is scheduled for **March 18, 2026** at 5:30 p.m. City Hall, 1018 Second Avenue S. North Myrtle Beach SC 29582.